



United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

B-300175

October 25, 2002

The Honorable Richard A. Meserve
Director, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Subject: Continuing Resolution Mandate

Dear Mr. Meserve:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of work the General Accounting Office is required to do under the Continuing Resolution (Public Law No. 107-229), request documents be faxed to our office next week, and ask you to designate a contact person to coordinate this engagement.

The Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 2003 (as extended by Public Law No. 107-244) requires the Comptroller General to report to the Appropriations Committees on apportionments made from funds appropriated or authority granted by the joint resolution. Specifically, the mandate provides that the Comptroller General shall:

"submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report identifying executive branch accounts for which apportionments made from funds appropriated or authority granted by this joint resolution provide for a rate of operations that differs from the current rate, within the meaning of sections 101 and 105."

Pub. L. 107-240, §134 (2002) (H.J.Res.122).

To perform this work, GAO and Committee staff identified a broad sample of discretionary accounts. We are asking the agencies to provide us with documents and information on an extremely short time frame to meet the needs of Congress. While the statutory deadline for this report is December 6, 2002, Committee staff has asked the Comptroller General to report before the expiration of the current Continuing Resolution (November 22) so that Congress may take any findings into consideration in drafting future legislation.

Enclosure 1 lists the Nuclear Regulatory Commission accounts identified in our sample. If any of these accounts are not within the Department's jurisdiction, please advise Carlos Diz of my staff immediately at 202-512-8256 or DizC@gao.gov.

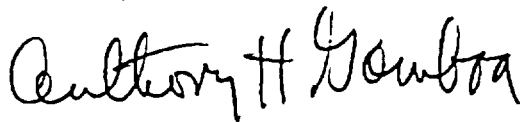
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For each of these accounts, GAO needs to know the rate of operations the Department calculated for each account under the Continuing Resolution due to expire on November 22, 2002, and any adjustments made from earlier Continuing Resolutions. This will require your agency to tell us how it performed its Continuing Resolution "math" and to provide the underlying documentation used to adhere to the guidance found in OMB Bulletin No. 02-06 and Supplements.

Enclosure 2 lists the documents we need to perform our work. Please fax these documents to Carlos Diz of my staff at 202-512-3445 (or to 202-512-7703) by October 31. Beginning the week of November 4, after we receive the requested documentation, representatives of the General Accounting Office will be contacting your department to ask follow-up questions. We request that you designate a contact point as soon as possible and provide the name of your contact point to Carlos Diz of my staff by telephone, 202-512-8256, or email DizC@gao.gov, or fax, 202-512-3445.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this mandate, you may contact Susan A. Poling (PolingS@gao.gov) or Carlos Diz (DizC@gao.gov) of my Office at 202-512-5644.

Sincerely yours,



Anthony H. Gamboa
General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Jesse L. Funches
Chief Financial Officer

LIST OF ACCOUNTS
10/25/02

Department/Agency	Bureau	Account
NRC	NRC	Salaries and expenses

Enclosure 2

Requested Documents

For all affected accounts:

- (1) Initial SF 132, *Apportionment and Reapportionment Schedule* for FY2002
- (2) Final SF 132, *Apportionment and Reapportionment Schedule* for FY2002 (if funds were reapportioned)
- (3) In order of preference, either:
 - (a) Approved SF 132 for FY2003 showing carryover of unobligated balances and spending authority, or
 - (b) Final SF133, *Report on Budget Execution and Budgetary Resources* for FY2002
- (4) If applicable, written apportionments approved by OMB in lieu of automatic apportionments under the FY2003 continuing resolutions
FY2003 allotments under the continuing resolutions
- (5) FY2003 allotments under the continuing resolutions
- (6) Guidance provided by department or agency to sub organizations on compliance with OMB Bulletin No. 02-06 and Supplements
- (7) Any other guidance that is relevant to calculating the current rate under the FY2003 continuing resolutions
- (8) Documentation for the department/agencies' fund control system required by OMB Circular No. A-11, Preparation, Submission and Execution of the Budget, § 150 —Administrative Control of Funds (revised June 27, 2002)